

EXPERIMENTAL HOLES.

THE SEARCH FOR NATURAL GAS ABOUT ST. LOUIS, IN ILLINOIS AND IN MISSOURI.

Proposition of a Pittsburg Company to Manufacture Fuel Gas at 7 Cents Per Thousand—The Cause Started By the Litchfield Wells Spreading—Local Interest.

The success of the Litchfield (Ill.) firm in tapping a great body of natural gas gave a wonderful impetus to the well-boring apparatus trade. The men who had learned the trade of well-boring in Pennsylvania when there was a well put down on oil on every farm, had found themselves almost without regular employment. Natural gas brought them out of the retirement and decline in the search for oil had thrust them. The people of St. Louis heard of the Litchfield success with some interest, as a large body of gas so near this city meant that there was more gas still nearer. Local manufacturers formed an experimental association, and learning there was a small well near Elsberryville, Ill., purchased the stock of an old corporation which formed there to search for oil and began the enlarging and deepening of the well on the Gaertner farm. So far, this experiment has not been very successful, but it has not discouraged other experimenters. Jonathan Watson of Titusville, Pa., an old well-digger, has been in the city for several weeks interesting capitalists in two wells he proposes to sink southwest of St. Louis. He is one of the oldest operators of the Pennsylvania oil regions, having spent his whole life in the business of digging holes in the ground. He has examined the Litchfield well near St. Louis, and is credited with having said that there is no thinking of it.

THE LATEST BODY OF NATURAL GAS in the world within easy piping distance of St. Louis, is being made by Irwin, Guntz & Co. in the old Chamber of Commerce Building, South Main street. He left last night for Sedalia to see the people there who proposed making a natural gas factory near that city with cheap fuel. Mr. Guntz, who is a former townman of Watson, said this morning he did not know what progress the latter had made in the effort to form the company. The well on the Gaertner farm would be dug. Until the wells were bored it would be impossible to say whether gas was under the city. Mr. Watson has great confidence in the success of an expedition to be conducted southwest of this city.

Ruben Carroll, President of the American Well-Drilling Company, Louisville, Ky., has been in St. Louis several times within the last three months looking over the geological indications of gas. He made one journey to St. Joseph and he has made arrangements to put a well down there for gas. The inhabitants of that city are excited over the prospect, and expect to have a well drilled in Kansas City in a year after the flow of gas begins.

General Bannister, Vice-Chairman of the Fuel, Gas and Electric Engineering Company, Pittsburg, a corporation of which he is Vice-President, has been in the city this summer and has been looking to the erection of a fuel gas works. By a process which he has perfected, he has been able to produce a gas for fuel purposes that can be furnished to consumers for 7 cents per thousand cubic feet. Noting that the cost of the gas is so low, he has been looking to the erection of a fuel gas works.

THE MANUFACTURE OF GAS if nature has performed that work, and the deposit only waits to be tapped. The Pittsburg process is better than any other, and it is possible that the price of gas to consumers may be cheaper than coal, in which event the cost might be in favor of the manufacture of gas.

Mr. S. H. Bates, Secretary of the company which is making the Edwardsville experiment, said this morning that he had a depth of 1,648 feet, and have stopped the drills into some large casing which has been ordered shut in. Then the drills were put to work again and kept at work for another several feet. The last casing was a 10-inch called Trenton limestone, and it is held in this porous strata by a covering of shale. The drills went through the last shale at 1,485 feet, and at 1,485 feet the first specimens of what we think is Trenton limestone. The strata is so porous that we cannot tell what Mr. Barnes bought out a collection of bottles on which were figures, nothing like the gas which the specimens had been obtained. The supposed bottles of Trenton limestone were filled with fine powder, dark grey in color and varying as to shade. A bottle of liquid was also shown. It is supposed to be exceptionally muddy hydrant water, and sealed strongly of a volcanic eruption. This water came from the bottom of the well. The specimens of the drillings and a flask of this water have been sent to Prof. F. C. Wright of Morgantown, who is the St. Louis company to dig at Edwardsville, and the secretary has been in correspondence with him. Prof. Wright thinks the drill is in Trenton limestone, and he has advised that the company should drill one hundred feet. If gas is not struck at that depth and the indications are not more favorable, the well will be abandoned. The gas is quite certain, however, gas will be found, though it may be in a different stratum, city or not, he cannot even predict.

There is no probability that the well will be sunk at some promising point. The gentlemen who are interested in the gas benefit would accrue to them, if gas should be found, in reducing the cost of manufacture and also in the fact that they would enjoy a gas well as a source of the sprinkling of the streets—the abatement of the smoke nuisance.

Secretary Bates says: "We are watching the well-digging in the vicinity of St. Louis with a great deal of interest. The gas wells are being put down four wells, in addition to those now producing gas. Wells are being bored at Potosi, in St. Louis County, near Potosi, and two in Tazewell County. The latter two are in the hands of the Missouri Gas Company. The finding of large gas bodies in Eastern Kansas has induced the inhabitants of Missouri to believe they are directly over natural gas, and they are getting ready to bore. The permanency of these gas bodies is of course uncertain, but if they had gas at any of the places named the town is bound to boom."

Capt. Frangel Exonerated. At the meeting of the Police Board yesterday the cases of Officers Thornton and Bigger for assaulting Matt, Sutton were continued. Patrolman Donahue was fined \$5 and reprimanded for drinking beer in a saloon while on duty. The charge against Patrolman Tom Connor for language directed at his superiors was dismissed without prejudice. The trumped-up charges of Lena Mohrkamp against Capt. Frangel, Patrolman Porter and Turkey Deer were, on recommendation of Chief Wheeler, ignored. Capt. Frangel was ready, but there was no evidence against him. Even the police sergeant who fathered the charges deserted them. The charge of neglect of duty against Patrolman Bourne was dismissed without prejudice. Patrolman Bob Wham was indicted in deep wound in his leg. The charge of unnecessary violence against Emergency-Special McNamara was dismissed.

Second District Police Court. Judge White had eleven cases of keeping mesthops without license this morning. All were continued until September 18 and 17. There were also six cases of selling liquor without license, one of them being against Fred Diebold, who forfeited a bond of \$500 by failing to appear.

CAR-WHEEL WORKS RUINED.

Destruction of the St. Louis Car-Wheel Company's Property Last Night.

Shortly after 11 o'clock last night a fire was discovered in the works of the St. Louis Car-Wheel Company, between Cabanne avenue and the Missouri Pacific tracks. It spread so rapidly that it was found necessary to turn on a second alarm. Police Sgt. Jones turned loose the hose in an adjoining stable and brought the books of the company out of the office before the arrival of the engines. There were four one-story buildings belonging to the company, all of them covered with sheet-iron. Three of these buildings, the machine shop and the wheel shop—were destroyed, together with a quantity of valuable stock and patterns. The machinery destroyed, which was valued at \$10,000, the stock at \$10,000, and the patterns at \$10,000, were valued at \$30,000. The insurance was valued at \$10,000.

The St. Louis Car-Wheel Company is owned by J. H. Wayne, Ind.; J. T. White, Vice-President; R. W. Green, Secretary and J. H. Dutton, Treasurer. The company succeeded to the business of the Dutton Car-Wheel Company. The company employs about three hundred men.

THE CONTINGENT OF THE WORK on the Olive street and Franklin avenue cable lines state that the burning of the shops of the St. Louis Car-Wheel Company will interfere with the progress of their work on either line. The cable cars will not be run here until they have very few castings. They are confident of having the Franklin avenue cable laid by September 15, but the work will not be operation by cable, however, before October 1.

ON THE OLIVE STREET line the contractors will carry the construction down to Tenth street, and then up to Twelfth street. The street will then be paved, and the cable cars will be run on the line. The Olive street road is expected to be completed November 1.

A MONGOLIAN MASHER.

A Chinaman Who Cultivates Captivating Side Whiskers.

A crowd of boys stood around Joe Cann's Chinese laundry at 2628 Olive street, last night, and didn't drive away. The salutes of the Chinaman had no lasting effect on the kids, who came flocking back as soon as the boys were sent zig-zagging over the street. A crowd of boys stood around Joe Cann's Chinese laundry at 2628 Olive street, last night, and didn't drive away. The salutes of the Chinaman had no lasting effect on the kids, who came flocking back as soon as the boys were sent zig-zagging over the street. A crowd of boys stood around Joe Cann's Chinese laundry at 2628 Olive street, last night, and didn't drive away. The salutes of the Chinaman had no lasting effect on the kids, who came flocking back as soon as the boys were sent zig-zagging over the street.

"What's the matter, here?" he asked. "You're a little masher," said one of the boys. "You're a little masher," said another. "You're a little masher," said a third. "You're a little masher," said a fourth. "You're a little masher," said a fifth. "You're a little masher," said a sixth. "You're a little masher," said a seventh. "You're a little masher," said an eighth. "You're a little masher," said a ninth. "You're a little masher," said a tenth. "You're a little masher," said an eleventh. "You're a little masher," said a twelfth. "You're a little masher," said a thirteenth. "You're a little masher," said a fourteenth. "You're a little masher," said a fifteenth. "You're a little masher," said a sixteenth. "You're a little masher," said a seventeenth. "You're a little masher," said an eighteenth. "You're a little masher," said a nineteenth. "You're a little masher," said a twentieth. "You're a little masher," said a twenty-first. "You're a little masher," said a twenty-second. 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[illegible]

CITY, Mo., August 31, 1897.
head; market slow. 50
\$3.51 head; market 50
\$3.10; choice, \$3.08
\$5.05. 10; light mixed,
\$4.70-4.80.

FATHER.

er Report.

LOUIS, August 31, 1897.

Draw	Direct	Value	State of
------	--------	-------	----------

	Wind	Temp.	Bar.	Weather
07	E	68	Clear.	
08	E	69	Fair.	
.....				
V. P. CHAPPEL, Signal Corps, U. S. A. Sullerlin.				
REMARKS.				
U. S. ARMY.				
August 31, 1897.				
No. are taken at 7 a. m.,				

2 E Clear.
 3 NE Clear.
 4 Calm Clear.
 5 S Clear.
 6 S W Fair.
 7 SE Clear.
 8 W Bk Cloudy.
 9 E S Cloudy.
 10 S E Cloudy.
 11 S E Fair.
 12 S Clear.
 13 S Clear.
 14 S Clear.
 15 S Clear.
 16 S Clear.
 17 S Clear.
 18 S Cloudy.
 19 Calm Cloudy.
 20 S Fair.
 21 S Fair.
 22 S Fair.
 23 S Fair.
 24 S Clear.
 25 W Clear.
 26 W Clear.
 27 W Clear.
 28 W Clear.
 29 W Clear.
 30 W Clear.
 All less than 01 inches.
 Fair.
 C. V. CHAPPEL
 Signal Corps, U. S. A.
 10ms.
 August 31.—Indications
 commencing at 3 p. m.
 ether, followed by local

by southerly winds,
g followed by falling
rn portion.
ther in southeast-
west portion, south-
stable in western por-
by warmer weather
ers, preceded by fair
portion; southerly
le; cooler in western
by falling tempera-
Kansas-Local rains,
becoming variable.
nearly stationary.

[illegible]

W. P. CHAFFIN,
Signal Corps, U. S. A.

Dock.

to-day on the wharf.
the Tennessee was the
-day.
and out on time and
promptly.
go to Kansas City on
great Electric Line.
due in to-day with a
for the Knapp, Stout

Louis and Vicksburg
ne, City of Monroe,
ill be ready for busi-
grams.
-Arrived: John Gil-
Departed: Gilmore,
ature City, New Or-
and falling. Clear
ust 31.--Noon--River
es on the falls. Clear
ust 31.--River rising.

to New Orleans, 18
 August 31.—River 3 feet
 ar and warm.
 31.—River 4 feet 1
 atter. 12.
 at 31.—River station-

PORTATION.

SI-SIPPL

eans Anchor Line.

ANDREW LINE
 ...Mrs. Hickman, ...
 ...Kansas City and Vic-
 ...days and Saturdays.
 ...Carran, Master
 ...Sept. 1 at 5 p. m.
 ...Mary's, Chester, Win-
 ...dow Tower.
 ...Lemon, Wash-
 ...and Saturdays at 2 p. m.
 ...F. PRATHER, Agent.
 ...Station House and New
 ...s.

Master.
See Line Wharfedale, food
on Saturday, Sept. 8.
F. PRATHER, Agent.

MISSISSIPPI.

Landing and Grades.
EAGLE
S p. m.
Dates apply on boarder's
ARMSTRONG, Agent.

VERMONT.

1. **W. W. F. F. F.**
 2. **W. W. F. F. F.**
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